



Winston H. Hickox
Secretary for
Environmental
Protection **Error!**

California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Central Valley Region

Robert Schneider, Chair



Gray Davis
Governor

Sacramento Main Office

Internet Address: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/~rwqcb5>
3443 Rottier Road, Suite A, Sacramento, California 95827-3003
Phone (916) 255-3000 • FAX (916) 255-3015

ATTACHMENT D

10 September 2001

REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT MONITORING DATA

The Regional Water Quality Control Board (Board) is required to protect and enhance the beneficial uses of surface and ground waters in the Region. As part of that effort, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permits are adopted which prescribe effluent limits for the types and concentrations of chemical and physical constituents which can be safely discharged. In order to prepare appropriate NPDES Permits, it is necessary to have adequate characterization of the discharged effluent and the receiving water.

The following is a requirement that you collect effluent and receiving water samples and have them analyzed for a variety of potential waste constituents. In most cases this monitoring will be in addition to monitoring required in your NPDES Permit. To the extent that there is overlap between this request and monitoring already being done under your Permit, the monitoring need not be duplicated. This requirement is brought on by a number of factors:

1. On 2 March 2000, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted the *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California*, also known as the State Implementation Policy (SIP). The SIP established methods of evaluating receiving water criteria and developing effluent limitation in NPDES Permits for the priority pollutants contained in the US Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) *California Toxics Rule* and portions of USEPA's *National Toxics Rule*. Section 1.2 of the SIP directs the Board to issue Water Code Section 13267 letters to all NPDES dischargers requiring submittal of data sufficient to (1) determine if priority pollutants require effluent limitations (Reasonable Potential Analysis) and (2) calculate water quality-based effluent limitations. Further, Section 2.4 of the SIP requires that each discharger submit to the Regional Boards reports necessary to determine compliance with effluent limitations for priority pollutants in permits. Sections 2.4.1 through 2.4.4 of the SIP provide minimum standards for analyses and reporting. (Copies of the SIP may be obtained from the State Water Resources Control Board, or downloaded from <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/iswp/final.pdf>.) To implement the SIP, effluent and receiving water data are needed for all priority pollutants. Effluent and receiving water pH and hardness are required to evaluate the toxicity of certain priority pollutants (such a heavy metals) where the toxicity of the constituents varies with pH and/or hardness. Section 3 of the SIP prescribes mandatory monitoring of dioxin congeners.

2. In addition to the specific requirements of the SIP, the Board is requiring the following monitoring needed for permit development:
 - a. Organophosphorous pesticides, principally diazinon and chlorpyrifos, are commonly-used insecticides found in many domestic wastewater discharges at concentrations which can cause toxicity both in effluent and in receiving water. These pesticides are not “priority pollutants” and so are not part of the analytical methods routinely performed for NPDES discharges. **This monitoring is required of domestic wastewater dischargers only.**
 - b. Drinking water constituents. Constituents for which drinking water Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) have been prescribed in the California Code of Regulation are included in the *Water Quality Control Plan, Fourth Edition, for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins* (Basin Plan). The Basin Plan defines virtually all surface waters within the Central Valley Region as having existing or potential beneficial uses for municipal and domestic supply. The Basin Plan further requires that, at a minimum, water designated for use as domestic or municipal supply shall not contain concentrations of chemical constituents in excess of the MCLs contained in the California Code of Regulations.
 - c. Effluent and receiving water temperature. This is both a concern for application of certain temperature sensitive constituents, such as fluoride, and for compliance with the Basin Plan’s thermal discharge requirements.
 - d. Effluent and receiving water hardness and pH. These are necessary because several of the CTR constituents are hardness or pH dependent.
 - e. Receiving water flow is needed to determine possible dilution available in the receiving water. The receiving water flows, in combination with the receiving water pollutant concentrations, will be used to determine if there is assimilative capacity in the receiving water for each pollutant, and whether dilution credits can be granted. Dilution credits can increase the concentrations of pollutants allowed in your effluent discharge if assimilative capacity is available in the receiving water.

Pursuant to Section 13267 of the California Water Code, you are required to submit monitoring data for your effluent and receiving water as described in Attachments I through IV.

Attachment I – Sampling frequency and number of samples.

Attachment II – Constituents to be monitored. This list identifies the constituents to be monitored. It is organized into groupings (Volatile Organics, Semi-Volatile Organics, Inorganics, Pesticides/Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), Other Constituents, and Discharge & Receiving Water Flows), which correspond to groupings in Attachment I. Also listed are the Controlling Water Quality Criteria and their concentrations. The criteria concentrations are compiled in the Central Valley Regional Water Board’s staff report, *A Compilation of Water Quality Goals*.¹ Minimum quantitation levels for the analysis of the listed constituents will be equal to or less than the Minimum Levels (ML) listed in Appendix 4 of the SIP or the Detection Limits for Reporting Purposes (DLRs) published by the Department of Health Services which are below the controlling water quality criteria concentrations listed in Attachment II of this letter. In cases where the

controlling water quality criteria concentrations are below the detection limits of all approved analytical methods, the best available procedure will be utilized that meets the lowest of the MLs and DLR. Also listed are suggested analytical procedures. You are not required to use these specific procedures as long as the procedure you select achieves the desired minimum detection level. All analyses must be performed by a California certified environmental analytical laboratory.

Attachment III – Dioxin and furan sampling. Section 3 of the SIP has specific requirements for the collection of samples for analysis of dioxin and furan congeners, which are detailed in Attachment III. Briefly, dischargers classified as major must collect and analyze two samples per year (one collected in the wet season and one collected in the dry season) for congeners in each of the next three years. For dischargers classified as minor, one wet season and one dry season sample must be collected and analyzed at some time during the next three years.

Attachment IV – Reporting Requirements. This attachment provides laboratory and reporting requirements including a recommended data reporting format.

With the exception of dioxin and furan congener sampling which is due by **1 November 2004** (see Attachment III), all samples shall be collected, analyses completed, and monitoring data shall be submitted to the Regional Board by **1 March 2003**. Any NPDES permit application submitted after **1 March 2002** shall include with the application at least one set of data for the constituents listed in Attachment II.

In the interest of generating and submitting data by the required dates, a schedule for compliance with this data request shall be prepared and submitted to the Executive Officer by **16 November 2001**. This schedule shall include the requirements of Attachment I and Attachment III. The schedule will also include the data submission requirements for applications submitted after **1 March 2002**.

Failure or refusal to submit technical or monitoring data as required by Section 13267, California Water Code, or falsifying any information provided is guilty of a misdemeanor and is subject to an administrative civil liability of up to \$1,000 per day of violation, in accordance with Section 13268, California Water Code.¹

If you have any questions, please contact your Regional Board staff representative.

Attachments (4)

GARY M. CARLTON
Executive Officer

¹ Available on the internet at http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb5/wq_goals.